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When ordering be sure to send the 95-cent Coupon, together with the special price quoted, and the Journal and magazines will be sent you for one year. Remember, this offer is not good unless the Coupon accompanies your order.

THE PERRYSBURG JOURNAL, Perrysburg, Ohio

This Bargain Price will be withdrawn after Nov 15

HOW TO SELECT SEED CORN

When Harvesting Seed Corn
Choose Medium Sized Ears
From Strong, Vigorous
Stalks.

GATHER IT FROM THE FIELD

There is Danger of Selecting Ears Too Large—if the Season is Late and Cold or Frosts Come Early We Will Have a Lot of Soft, Chaffy, Moldy Light Corn From Which to Get Seed for Our Next Year's Crop.

By PROF. P. G. HOLDEN, Director
Agricultural Department International
Harvester Co. of New Jersey.

A good sized ear is essential to a good yield. It indicates that the ear comes from a strong, vigorous, healthy stalk and that in turn it will produce stalks and ears having a strong constitution and hardness. No one would think of selecting for seed small, weak, puny-looking ears. Corn has been bred for the grain or ear until the proportion of corn to stalk is abnormally high and consequently the tendency is for the ear to become smaller unless we select larger ears than we expect in the average of the crop.

Select Medium Sized Ears. On the other hand, the greater danger lies in selecting too large ears and too large types of corn, and this is especially true of the northern half of the corn belt. For every dollar lost by growing corn that is too small or too early there are ten to twenty dollars lost from growing corn that is too large and too late in maturing. If the season is late and cold, or the frosts come too early, or if the seed is planted late in the spring, the grower has a lot of soft, chaffy, moldy, light corn. In addition to this it is very difficult to secure good seed from such corn for next year's crop. It is certain to be more or less frozen, moldy and weak, and to result in a poor stand and a poor crop. Large, sappy, immature ears fill the wagon-box rapidly, and we deceive ourselves into thinking that we are getting a large yield. Corn of this kind often contains from 15 to 45 per cent of water. When the corn dries it is loose on the cob, chaffy and light. The little cells in the kernels are only partially filled with food and are dull and chalky, or starchy,

instead of bright, hard, heavy and rich in appearance.

The corn is apt to spoil, especially in the bottom of the crib, i. e., burns out, and it is unpalatable to stock. The grower of such corn is required to sell it at a greatly reduced price. What we want is corn that will be safe every year. Remember that two small ears weighing but ten ounces each, to each hill will make 64 bushels per acre, or double the average yield. Three of them will give nearly 100 bushels per acre.

This indicates full maturity, good quality, feeding value and yield. Large ears will generally have larger and deeper kernels. Short, bunched ears are certain to have deeper kernels than long, slim ears. As a consequence the planter cannot be adjusted to give a uniform drop.

If we have large and small ears, bunched and slim ears, deepkerneled and shallowkerneled ears we shall not only have unevenness in size and shape of kernels, but we shall also have a great variation in time of maturity, some stalks bearing early and some late, and some having high ears and some low.

POOR SEED MEANS LOW YIELD.

One small eight-ounce ear of corn added to each hill will double the yield and value of the crop and add \$1,700,000,000 to its total value.

CORN GROWERS' RULES.

1. Pick seed corn before October 1st, saving at least twice as much as will be needed.
2. Select only ears that will ripen and that are of good quality.
3. Select from strong, vigorous stalks, ears that bend over at medium height on medium length shanks.
4. Hang seed corn in a dry, well ventilated place, so that the ears do not touch.
5. Select seed corn from your own field.
6. If you must buy seed corn, buy in your own locality.
7. In the spring, select the best ears and test each ear.
8. Select 100 of the choicest of these ears and plant in a separate plot to select from next year.

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MEANS FAILURE

Don't Select Your Seed Corn
From the Crib—You Can't
Tell What You Are
Getting.

WE MUST STUDY THE STALK

When You Gather Seed Corn, Study the Root System, Foliage, Stalk, Husk and Tassel—Pick Ears of Medium Height on Stalk With Short Shank.

By P. G. HOLDEN, Agricultural Extension Department International Harvester Company of N. J.
The character of the stalk should be taken into consideration in selecting the seed.

There are almost as many things to be considered in connection with the stalk as have been discussed with regard to the ear; though it will be impossible to give to the subject the space it deserves.

There are the root system; the character of the foliage, and its distribution on the stalk; the disposition to sucker and to set several ears; the length of the shank, the time of pollination as compared with silking; susceptibility to disease such as rust, smut and mold; tendency to break over at the roots, below the ear and above the ear; premature ripening, leaving the ear light and chaffy; the position of the ear on the stalk, high, medium or low; erect or drooping; the way the ear is covered with the husks and the comparative maturity of the different stalks and ears, etc.

The great majority of corn raisers do not take these things into consideration. They simply save the occasional good ear throughout the husking season or pick them from the crib at planting time.

We must know the stalk upon which the ear grew, whether the stalk was the only one in the hill or one of three stalks.

How Is This to Be Done?

There is just one practical way to do it, and that is to go into the field in the fall, before the nights are cold enough to injure the vitality of the corn, and select the best ears, provided they come from strong, healthy, desirable stalks. We simply must come to this method of selecting our seed corn.

Strong Stalks.

The stalk from which an ear is selected should be strong, vigorous and healthy, indicating ability to win in the competition and to overcome unfavorable conditions. We should discriminate against spindling stalks, especially those that are small from the ear to the ground. Particularly should we avoid those stalks which have shown their weakness by breaking over. The ear is likely to rest on the ground and gather moisture and mold.

Height of Ear.

Select ears from as nearly the same height and position on the stalk as possible. The higher growing ears will tend to make the corn later each year. If we go to the other extreme we will soon get an early, small, slim, flinty ear, with shallow kernels and open furrows between the rows and the yield will be reduced.

Drooping or Erect Ears.

An ear that droops its nose slightly as the husk begins to turn yellow and open is preferable to one that stands erect, allowing the water to run down under the husks and stand at the butt of the ear, which of course is undesirable. The drooping ears are generally a little earlier than the erect ones.

Short Shank Desirable.

The ear should be set on a short shank close to the stalk. Ears on long shanks are more likely to be broken off and are a nuisance to handle, especially if the corn is cut and shocked.

Freedom From Disease.

The stalks should be free from disease such as smut, rust, mold, etc. I have seen cases where nearly every stalk coming from a certain ear was affected, and so badly affected that there was not a good ear on any of the 800 stalks.

Foliage, Its Character and Distribution.

A thin, sparse foliage is never desirable. It carries with it nothing but weakness. In the corn belt where the ear is the most valuable part of the plant, we should secure the kind of stalk and foliage which will give the greatest profit in grain. This will not be secured by heavy foliage. The best results will be between the two extremes.

Two Ears to the Stalk Not Desirable. Except possibly in the case of flint varieties and the early northern dent varieties, which are grown for the fodder, it will be advisable to select seed from one-ear stalks.

Covering of the Ear With Husks. A heavy mass of husks on an ear or the projection of the husks beyond the tip of the ear into a tight point are objectionable; they prevent the corn from drying and make it more difficult to husk. The husks should just fairly cover the tip of the ear and should loosen or open at time of ripening, to allow circulation of air in order to dry out the corn.

Lice.

Lice on the husks will cause the husks to turn yellow prematurely. In selecting seed do not mistake this yellow condition for early ripening.



(Drawn by P. W. Cramwell, especially for THE GLEANER & BUSINESS FARMER.)

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Disregarded Proprieties.

The minister was calling, and just as he was about to depart he knelt to ask a blessing. Three-year-old Eva, whose notion of prayer was associated only with bedtime, looked on in open-eyed wonder. Finally she interrupted the earnest petition by blurring out, "Mister, mister, you can't do that without no nightie!"